

WAR MINISTRY BUILDING
Room 380

15 June 1946

The undersigned have examined newspaper articles published 6 December 1937 and 13 December 1937 in Tokyo "Nichi Nichi," photostatic copies of which are attached. We have also examined English versions thereof published 7 December 1937 and 14 December 1937 in the "Japan Advertiser," and certify that the photostatic copies are true and correct copies, and that the English versions are true and correct copies except that the word "Asahi" appearing in the article of 7 December, being the last word in the next to the last line, is improperly translated and should be "Nichi Nichi" and, furthermore, that the photograph of the contestants appearing in the Japanese version of 13 December, does not appear in the English version of 14 December 1937; that other than the above correction or omission, the English and Japanese versions are identical.

The undersigned further state that the Japanese version published 6 December and the English version published 7 December was a news article prepared by the undersigned ASAMI, Kazuo, in conjunction with MITSUMOTO, Ichitaro, and that the Japanese version of 13 December or English version of 14 December, was prepared jointly by the undersigned.

We further certify that the facts set forth in these articles are true and correct, and constitute an account of an actual contest which occurred as the articles so state.

Witnessed:

/s/ K. N. PARKINSON, I.P.S.
K. N. Parkinson, I.P.S.

/s/ ASAMI, KAZUO
Asami, Kazuo
Tokyo Mainichi

/s/ MASAHARU YOSHITANI, I.P.S.
Masaharu Yoshitani, I.P.S.

/s/ SUZUKI, JIRO
Suzuki, Jiro
Tokyo Mainichi

/s/ PFC MIKE M. AZUMA, C. I. S.
PFC Mike M. Azuma, C. I. S.

THE NANKING "MURDER RACE"

On December 7, 1937, the Japan Advertiser, an American-owned and edited English-language daily paper in Tokyo, published the following item:

Sub-Lieutenants in Race
To Fell 100 Chinese
Running Close Contest

Sub-lieutenant Toshiaki Mukai and Sub-lieutenant Takeshi Noda, both of the Katagiri unit at Kuyung, in a friendly contest to see which of them will first fell 100 Chinese in individual sword combat before the Japanese forces completely occupy Nanking, are well in the final phase of their race, running almost neck to neck. On Sunday when their unit was fighting outside Kuyung, the "score," according to the Asahi, was: Sub-lieutenant Mukai, 89, and Sub-lieutenant Noda, 78.

On December 14, 1937, the same paper published the following additional report:

Contest to Kill First 100 Chinese
With Sword Extended When Both
Fighters Exceed Mark

The winner of the competition between Sub-Lieutenant Toshiaki Mukai and Sub-Lieutenant Iwao Noda to see who would be the first to kill 100 Chinese with his Yamato sword has not been decided, the Nichi Nichi reports from the slopes of Purple Mountain, outside Nanking. Mukai has a score of 106 and his rival has dispatched 105 men, but the two contestants have found it impossible to determine which passed the 10 mark first. Instead of settling it with a discussion, they are going to extend the goal by 50.

Mukai's blade was slightly damaged in the competition. He explained that this was the result of cutting a Chinese in half, helmet and all. The contest was "fun" he declared, and he thought it a good thing that both men had gone over the 100 mark without knowing that the other had done so.

Early Saturday morning, when the Nichi Nichi man interviewed the sub-lieutenant at a point overlooking Dr. Sun Yat-sen's tomb, another Japanese unit set fire to the slopes of Purple Mountain in an attempt to drive out the Chinese troops. The action also smoked out sub-Lieutenant Mukai and his unit, and the men stood idly by while bullets passed over head.

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"Not a shot hits me while I am holding this sword on my shoulder,"
he explained confidently.

Certified to be a true copy
of articles appearing on
December 7, 1937, and December 14,
1937, in the Japan Advertiser;

/s/ M. Nagamine Asst. Librarian, Tokyo IMP. Univ. Library
this 13th day of June 1946.